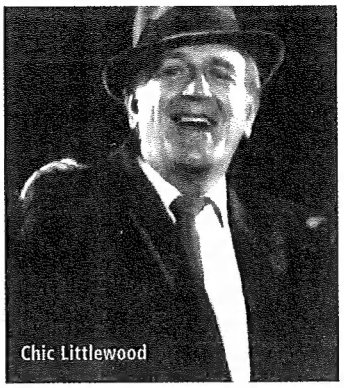
On Stage

By Sheryl Watson.


Chic Littlewood

There is an exciting variety of entertainment on offer at the Playhouse Theatre this month.

It is great to see the return of the Waitakere City Orchestra on August 6 at 8pm. Conductor, Brigid Bisley will be presenting a concert that includes solo performances by guitarist Sasha Witten-Hannah and harpsichordist Michael Bell. The world premiere of *Pastorale*, a new New Zealand work especially commissioned from composer Ross Carey, will be played by the orchestra and Brigid will also present her arrangement for guitar and orchestra of Albeniz: *Asturias*. Shubert's *Symphony in B flat* is also featured. Theatre patrons will experience a selection of exciting and unusual music that is not often heard in a live performance. Book at www.iticket.co.nz or phone 361 000.

If you would like to assist with the WCO's concerts or help with sponsorship, contact Brigid Ph. 817 2930 or email: brigidbisley@hotmail.com

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Chic Littlewood, one of New Zealand's entertainment icons, presents his critically acclaimed, one-man show *Thank You Mr Holloway* on Wednesday, August 10 at 11am. Quentin Gannaway will act as accompanist. Chic takes on the persona of Stanley Holloway whose show business career spanned an incredible 80 years. From old-time variety through concert party to musical comedy, light opera, Shakespeare, more than 60 movies, radio and television, Mr Holloway was the consummate performer. Who can forget his portrayal of the incorrigible, Alfred P. Doolittle, Eliza's scurrilous, father in *My Fair Lady* in both the stage and film productions. Chic's show is a unique and delightful theatrical experience, not to be missed. Tickets are $18 and can be booked and collected from Playhouse Theatre. Always a supporter of Playhouse and a great trouper, Chic has generously offered the proceeds from his show to fund additional theatre equipment.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Next on the calendar is Brass Magic being performed by the popular Trusts Waitakere Brass. This band dates back to 1923 when it was known as the New Lynn Citizens Band. Over the years it has become one of New Zealand's premier brass bands and has attracted worldwide accolades for its CD recordings and concerts.

The band brought home top honours from the Australian Brass Band Championships in 2003. Simon Kerwin, a world-renowned composer and tuba player, is conducting the band in a programme that follows a theme of magic and fantasy. Popular choices such as the *Harry Potter Theme*, music from *Lord of the Rings* and *The Sorcerer's Apprentice* will be performed.

Soloists for the evening include Simon's wife, Alexandra, a champion cornet player whose credits include British Open Solo Champion 2003. New Zealand National Brass Championships Best Instrumentalist 2004 and Norwegian Entertainment Solo Champion Ross Gerritsen, who this year took the title New Zealand Champion Baritone Soloist, will be performing *Pantomime* by Philip Sparke. Sergio Marshall will be featured playing tenor horn. Brass Magic promises to be an evening of fun and superb music. Tickets $18/$15/$12 are available from Ticketek. Special offer: children under 12 years are free!

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Academy'D' Danztx presents a Restricted Day Dance Competition on Saturday, August 13, from 8.30am - 6.30pm. Dancers aged from five years to adults will be competing and dance styles being judged will include hip hop, ballet, jazz and tap. Dance director Sheryl Krissansen says the public are welcome to attend and entry is by way of a gold coin donation.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Playhouse Theatre Incorporated is holding auditions on Saturday, August 20 and Sunday, August 21 from 10am – 5pm for the production of *Aladdin* – the Panto to be staged at Playhouse from November 19 - December 3. Male and female cast are required aged 17 years to adult. Auditions are by appointment, phone 818 5751. Bring a prepared song and wear clothing suitable for movement. Dancers are also required. For more information, phone director Terry 828 7862.

Playhouse is also needing a musical director and production manager for *Aladdin*.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Auckland Academy of Dance presents two dynamic performances of *Glitz*, an extravaganza of dance, at Playhouse on August 27. A matinee at 2pm ($18/$15) will be followed by an evening performance at 7.30pm which includes wine and cheese ($22.50). Choreography is by Alissa Bell, assisted by Keri Edley. To book, phone Kim Findlay 449 0294 or 021 546546.

See you at the theatre! – **Sheryl**

• *Sheryl is manager of the Playhouse Theatre, 15 Glendale Road, Glen Eden; Phone (09) 818 5751, Mobile: 021 125 1271, Email: sheryl.watson@playhousetheatre.org.nz*

Like to talk about your banking?

Whether you're choosing a home loan, planning your savings or considering investments, it's always best to talk things over with someone who knows what the options are.

Come and see us at **The National Bank 3029 Great North Road, New Lynn.** or call **09 827 7761.**

The National Bank of New Zealand

05-0238

OUR INVESTMENT STATEMENTS ARE AVAILABLE FROM ANY OF OUR BRANCHES. A CURRENT DISCLOSURE STATEMENT PUBLISHED BY ANZ NATIONAL BANK LIMITED MAY BE OBTAINED FROM ANY BRANCH OR AGENCY OF THE NATIONAL BANK OF NEW ZEALAND. OUR LENDING CRITERIA APPLY.